

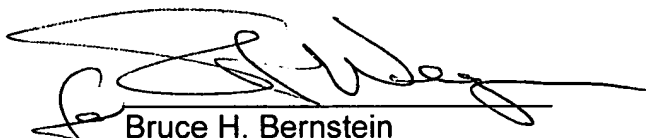
REMARKS

The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the foregoing amendment prior to examination of the above-identified patent application.

The amendments to the Abstract and claims made in this amendment have been made to delete reference to element numbers, and have not been made to overcome the prior art. Thus, the amendments should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kanji HATA et al.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bruce H. Bernstein', is written over a horizontal line.

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